

VZCZCXRO4784  
PP RUEHTRO  
DE RUEHTU #0239 1110709  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 210709Z APR 09  
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6214  
INFO RUCNMGH/MAGHREB COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY 0987  
RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY 7735  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 1663  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1478  
RUEHNK/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY 1009  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 1956  
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY 8582  
RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY 0285  
RUEHCL/AMCONSUL CASABLANCA PRIORITY 0001  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS TUNIS 000239

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EEB/IFD/OMA (JACOBY), NEA/RA, AND NEA/MAG  
(PATTERSON/HAYES)  
CASABLANCA FOR FCS (ORTIZ)  
CAIRO FOR FINANCIAL ATTACHE (SEVERENS)  
LONDON AND PARIS FOR NEA WATCHER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAID ECON EFIN PGOV PREL TS

SUBJECT: TUNISIA'S CENTRAL BUDGET: RESPONSE TO SFOAA  
SECTION 7088(C)(1)

REF: A. STATE 28885  
B. 08 TUNIS 237

¶1. (U) The Government of Tunisia will receive the following foreign assistance for FY09: US\$ 10 million in Foreign Military Financing (FMF), and US\$1.7 million in International Military Education and Training (IMET).

¶2. (U) The Government of Tunisia's national budget is publicly available and is published in the official gazette and on the internet. It details both income and expenditures. According to Tunisian law, the parliamentary debates on the annual budget are open to the public. The Tunisian Court of Accountability -- the Tunisian counterpart to the US Government Accounting Office -- monitors and investigates the use of GOT funds.

¶3. (U) Tunisia's ranking on Transparency International's (TI) Corruption Index has dropped from 51 in 2006 to 62 in 2008 (out of 180 countries) with a score of 4.4. According to the TI Corruption Index scale, a score of ten indicates extremely little corruption and a score of zero very serious corruption. There is no single GOT ministry or agency with a specific anti-corruption mandate, although the Court of Accountability may investigate allegations of corruption through the course of their normal reviews.

Godec